

September 20, 1988

TO: Mine File

FROM: Holland Shepherd HWS

RE: Site Visit, Georgia Pacific Unpermitted Site, John Welch Claims, S/015/035, Emery County, Utah

I visited the site of the Georgia Pacific disturbance on September 20, 1988 at approximately 3:30 p.m. The site was recently disturbed by Georgia Pacific this past August without benefit of permit. I was notified of the problem by Neil Simmon of the BLM's San Rafael Resource Area.

The operator has disturbed approximately 5 acres of land over an area along the Moore road, approximately 4 miles in length. The operator went into several areas with a cat dozer and dug approximately 8 to 10 pits in search of gypsum. As well as the pits, composing parts of the disturbance, the cat also developed some roads to access the pit and also went across country.

During my conversation with Mr. Simmons, I was informed that Georgia Pacific was asked to reclaim the areas that were disturbed, immediately. During this visit, I did observe that some reclamation had already progressed. All the pits have been backfilled, the largest disturbance to the northwest of the disturbed areas has been harrowed and maybe seeded at this point. Approximately four acres have yet to be reclaimed properly. The areas to the southeast of the disturbance still need to be graded properly and seeded.

Pictures were taken and will be available in the file for future reference. This site is accessed by taking the Moore Road from I-70, starting at the stop sign at I-70 and Moore Road the first disturbance occurs approximately 2.4 miles. The last part of the disturbance or the last pit at approximately 6 miles from the stop sign.

The areas that have been impacted will be difficult to reclaim. The area is extremely dry and vegetative community is something close to cryptogamic.

jb
cc: Lowell Braxton
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